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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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298

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 24 JUL 50

SUBJECT Conditions in Najin, North Korea

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The mayor of Najin (130-15, 42-10), is KIM, a member of the North Korean Labor Party and a native of the USSR. He is assisted by approximately seventy city officials. The building formerly occupied by the International Transportation Company, Limited, is used as the city hall. The People's Internal Affairs office, composed of a staff of fifty, occupies the building formerly used by the Choson Industrial Bank. In addition to the usual local governmental agencies, two special agencies have been created to administer the affairs of the Najin wharf and light house. Local branches of the major North Korean political parties have been established in the city, as well as branches of youth and women organizations and cooperative societies. A Najin Marine Products Cooperative Society and a Najin Railroad Party have also been organized.
2. Electric power for this city of 33,000 residents, of whom about 3,000 are Chinese, is transmitted from the Hoeam (何安) Station, Kyonghung (130-30, 42-35) County, North Hamgyong Province. The city's water supply is furnished by a reservoir at Songch'on-dong (松春洞), in Kyonghung County.
3. Najin is connected with the city of Unggi (130-20, 42-20) by the Tunen Railroad, and with Unggi and Chongjin (129-49, 41-46) by first-class highways and ferry boat service. A railroad between Chongjin and Najin, which was started by the Japanese, is now under construction. Although the city has no broadcasting facilities, two radio-telegraph stations, one cable and three hundred radio receivers provide communications with other cities, and three hundred telephones facilitate internal communications.*
4. As specified in an agreement between the USSR and North Korea, the harbors of Najin and Chongjin are to be enlarged and made available to the USSR.** The harbor at Puryong (129-40, 42-00) (County), between Najin and Chongjin, is to be combined with these two ports to provide additional facilities. Soviet ships arrive at Najin once or twice monthly, bringing salt and ammunition, and leave with cargoes of corn, millet and beans.

* Comment. These facilities were reported as planned by a North Korean-USSR agreement concluded in February 1949. Cables were to be installed

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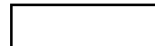
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between Najin and Chongjin, and between Najin and Sosura (130-35, 42-15) and Posyet (130-48, 42-39). The Najin-Chongjin railroad was scheduled for completion in May 1949; [redacted] Later reports dated the completion of the railroad in June 1950, [redacted]

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** [redacted] Comment. For details of the agreement, [redacted]

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